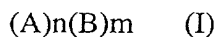


CLAIMS

1. A compound comprising a superoxide scavenger and an organic nitrate or nitrite moiety.

2. A compound according to claim 1, which is represented by formula (I):



where A is a superoxide scavenger, B is an organic nitrate or organic nitrite moiety, n and m are values between 1 and 8.

3. A compound according to claim 2, wherein in formula (I), n and m are integers.

4. A compound according to claim 3, wherein the values of n and m are both 1.

5. A compound according to claim 2 wherein A and B are stably linked.

6. A compound according to claim 2, wherein said organic nitrate or nitrite moiety forms nitric oxide in the body of an animal.

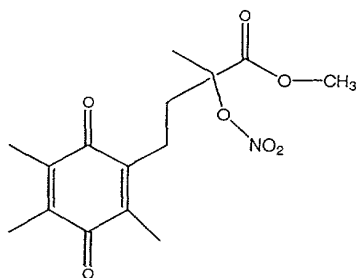
7. A compound according to claim 6, wherein the nitric oxide is formed by enzymatic conversion of said organic nitrate or nitrite moiety by endogenous enzymes in the body of an animal.

8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein said enzymatic conversion is by xanthine oxidase.

9. A compound according to claim 6, wherein the superoxide scavenger remains effective in trapping superoxide upon enzymatic conversion of the organic nitrate or nitrite moiety to form nitric oxide

10. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the superoxide scavenger is a low molecular mass superoxide dismutase analog.

11. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the superoxide scavenger is a spin trap capable of trapping superoxide.
12. A compound according to claim 2 wherein the superoxide scavenger contains one or more thiol groups.
13. A compound according to claim 2, wherein said superoxide scavenger is linked to the organic nitrate or nitrite moiety by a linkage that is stable under physiological conditions.
14. A compound according to claim 13, wherein said linkage is a thiol linkage.
15. A compound having the formula



16. A composition comprising a compound according to claim 2 in conjunction with a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient.
17. A method of treating heart disease comprising administering a compound according to claim 2 in a therapeutically effective amount to a patient in need thereof.